

1. What was / has been your occupation before entering politics?

I was a federal Crown prosecutor specializing in corporate crime and a law professor in the faculty of common law and the University of Ottawa.

2. Do you live in the riding and, if so, how long has it been your home?

Yes, I have lived in Old Ottawa South for the past 13 years.

3. What has been your main involvement with your community outside of work (volunteer activities, etc.)?

Old Ottawa South Community Association board member; spokesperson for "Bookmark the Core" for the central library; Chair for Shawn Menard's 2018 city council campaign.

4. In your life what event, or book, or speech, or song or even TV show has made the biggest impression on you and your political thinking? Why?

As a teenager, I was hugely influenced by Margaret Atwood's novel, *The Handmaid's Tale*. My highschool yearbook quote was "Nolite te bastardes carborundorum" the faux latin phrase said to translate as "don't let the bastards grind you down." My early understanding of feminism, abuse of power by the state and the importance of reproductive freedom was influenced by Margaret Atwood's books. That book, as well as other dystopian fiction by authors like Kurt Vonnegut and George Orwell were very influential as well.

5. What previous politician, (alive or dead, but not currently in parliament) is a role model for you?

Paul Dewar was a very important role model, mentor and friend for me, not only as a politician but as a person. Paul was in politics for all the right reasons. He wanted to change our city, our country and the world for the better. He was fearless in his commitment to human rights and was propelled by love and optimism for our country. Campaigning alongside him in 2015, I learned so much about how to listen and be a community builder. Like countless people I've spoken to in Ottawa Centre, I miss him terribly.

6. What policy in your party's platform do you think matters most to the people in your riding?

The climate crisis is the biggest issue that comes up when I am talking to people on the doors, and I am proud to be running on the NDP's platform of bold climate policies that will treat the climate crisis with the urgency it demands. Jagmeet Singh and the NDP's plan finally proposes some real action on the climate crisis while helping workers transition to a green economy and this is exactly the kind of approach we need.

7. Recent polls suggest many Canadians are disillusioned with politics. If elected, what would you do to address those concerns?

There is no question that hyper partisanship and toxic rhetoric has infected our politics and are fuelling disillusionment among Canadians. I believe that electoral reform, which would eliminate the false majorities we see all too often, would give Canadians greater confidence in our

electoral system. We must also reduce corporate influence in policy-making so that Canadians can have confidence that decisions are being made in the public interest.